

BROOKING STREET BULLETIN

ISSUE #20, 8 JUNE 2008

Buddhist Discussion Centre (Upwey) Ltd.
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ABBOT'S REPORT

Dear friends in the Dhamma,

Let us add power (Brum Brum) to our practice. We have all accumulated a vast amount of merit through our efforts at the United Nations Day of Vesak Celebrations. Rejoice in your merits. This is the first step in increasing the power in your practice. Then apply this merit to focusing your practice on the area that you need to improve now. It is a good idea to take time to review your life, or life plan to check your direction with your Buddha Dhamma goals. My advice is to apply it to regular guided meditation (Bhavana) because this is the only way for one to develop the insight wisdom required to correct our wrong views.

We have a four day Bhavana Course this month and every Saturday night meditation. The topic of the course and the Saturday night meditations is developing insight wisdom. Please attend these events. The Buddha field is very strong at this time to help you do this with ease.

I love you all. ~Anita Carter

MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING

Our next General Meeting will be held on Saturday the 28th June, 2008 at 5.30pm. All Members are encouraged to attend to support our Centre. We require a quorum of 7 members to conduct our General Meetings.

THIRTY YEAR CELEBRATIONS OF THE BUDDHIST DISCUSSION CENTRE (UPWEY) LTD.

We are turning 30 years and to celebrate we are running several events which include, a Chan Painting Exhibition, a Katina Offering Ceremony, and the 1000 Buddhas Installation Ceremony to celebrate Founder's Day.

IMPORTANT DATES

SATURDAY WEEKLY	MEMBERS' DAY 11.00AM BUDDHISM CLASS FOR BEGINNERS & CONTINUERS
SATURDAY EVENINGS	8.00PM BUDDHA DHAMMA MEDITATION TEACHING BY VENERABLE SANGHA OR GUIDED BY ANITA CARTER
14TH JUNE	SUMI-E CLASS TAUGHT BY JAN BENNETT
28TH JUNE	5.30PM GENERAL MEETING 2.00PM CHAN PAINTING CLASS TAUGHT BY MELBA NIELSEN
12TH, 19TH & 26TH	7.30PM THURSDAY NIGHT DHAMMA TEACHING AT GLEN PARK COMMUNITY CENTRE
15TH JUNE	GURU PUJA

CHAN PAINTING EXHIBITION

The Chan Academy is holding it's first annual painting exhibition titled "The Four Seasons, The Four Friends" at Burrinja Gallery in Upwey from the 9th-24th August 2008.

The opening of the exhibition will be held on Sunday 10th August, 2008 at 1-3 pm. Local Member of State Parliament and Minister Hon. James Merlino has been invited to open the exhibition. Paintings will include works by Chan painter and Teacher Melba Nielsen, Sumi-e painter and Teacher Jan Bennett, and Chan students Helen Costas, Anita Carter, Julian Bamford, and the late Masters John D. Hughes and Andre Sollier.

WFB CONFERENCE 14TH - 17TH NOVEMBER 2008, JAPAN.

The Buddhist Discussion Centre (Upwey) Ltd which is a Regional Centre of the World Fellowship of Buddhists will be sending a delegation of nine persons to this Conference to perform the rapporteur activities for the Conference together with the World Buddhist

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University Conference which is being held concurrently. Our Team Members attending the conference will be Anita Carter, Frank Carter, Julian Bamford, Leanne Eames, Tanya Poynton, Lainie Smallwood, Helen Costas, Adam Richards and Rachael Wass.

Rachael is a Member of the Quang Minh Temple and has worked with our Members at a number of events including the UN Vesak.

LIVE BETTER WITH METTA ! OUR 2008 SLOGAN

Anita suggests that all of us spend this year developing our metta practice.

This involves chanting the metta sutta in Pali and English everyday, daily metta meditation using Venerable Mahinda's instructions on CD and sending metta to each person you meet.

“It is through Love alone that hate is concurred”

- THE BUDDHA, DHAMMAPADA

GURU PUJA PART OF OUR MONTHLY PROGRAM

The Guru Puja is designed to develop deep gratitude to our Teacher and Teachers, all the way back to the Buddha of this age. It is to help us stay connected with our Teacher, John D. Hughes and makes the causes for us to meet again. It is designed to request help and guidance to ensure that the Centre is operating according to the rules laid down by the Founder to ensure our Centre last for at least 500 years. It is designed to develop confidence in our ability to run this Centre within the Triple Gem.

ONE THOUSAND BUDDHAS OFFERING

To celebrate the 30 years since the Founding of the Buddhist Discussion Centre in 1978, we will hold an installation ceremony on Founder's Day, 9th September, 2008. All members are requested to attend. The day will start with offering lunch to Venerable monks and nuns. Followed by blessing of

the Buddha images and then installing the images around the inside of our hall. Frank Carter and George Costas will arrange for shelving to be fitted around the hall where the images will be installed. Every person will carry a Buddha image and offer the image to the installer.

UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DAY OF VESAK CELEBRATION

Thank you to all our members and friends for their committed support and contribution to our work on this occasion. It was well noted by the organising committee that our centre worked extremely efficiently and covered not only our own responsibilities, but also filled in any gaps that appeared. Well done to everyone.

There was a surplus from the event of approximately \$3700 which will be donated to the Burmese Cyclone Relief activities.

A follow up meeting of the Organising Committee was held recently at which it was decided that we will make this UN Vesak Day Celebration an annual event in Melbourne. The committee will suggest that committees be formed in every state so that all states will conduct a similar celebration each year.

The planning meetings for the Melbourne 2009 UN Vesak event will commence in October 2008.

BHAVANA COURSE OVER THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND 6TH JUNE TO 9TH JUNE 2008.

The theme for the Bhavana Course will be developing insight wisdom. We will do this through studying the Satipatana Sutta and practising insight meditation (Vispassana). Each day the teachings will begin at 11.00 am and end at 4pm. Through the day merit making activities will be used to fuel our learning. Our other Bhavana Courses this year will be held from 5th September to 9th September and from 27th December to 31st December 2008.



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FLOWER STALL FUNDRAISERS

Our next flower stall fundraiser is on Father's Day 7th of September 2008. Our Mother's Day Flower Stall Fundraiser was a great success generating a net profit of \$1788 from the sale of 217 bunches of flowers. Thank you to Frank Carter for coordinating the stall, arranging flowers and contacting everyone for the roster.

DHAMMARAJIKA ORPHANAGE - URGENT APPEAL FOR HELP.

US\$900 was transferred to the Dhammarajika Orphanage in May. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this offering.

Thank you to Melba who has decided to make a monthly offering of \$20 to our orphanage appeal.

Established in 1972 for homeless children, they have provided thousands of orphans with safe shelter, food, clothing, medical care, education and basic living needs.

Today in Bangladesh, one of the poorest and most densely populated countries in the world, the economic and food situation is in crisis. Nearly half the population survives on less than \$1 a day. The price of rice, the staple food, has soared in the past year. The World Food Program warns that countries, such as Bangladesh, are heading towards being unable to feed themselves.

Since 1983 we have helped the children of Dhammarajika Orphanage in Bangladesh through fundraising in our local community.

Our most recent fundraising project is an appeal we have made to local schools that they consider holding a special event such as a Free Dress Day or a Coins for Rice Appeal, or some other suitable activity to help raise funds for the orphanage.

This is an urgent call for help.

We are a self-help charitable organisation registered

with the Government of Victoria under the Fundraising Appeals Act. Our registration number is 8121.

MORE PHOTOS LOADED TO BUDDHAVIEW WEBSITE

We have been loading lots of photos old and new to www.buddhaview.org. The site now holds over 520 photographs in 41 album folders. Recent additions to the site include:

- Dhamma Teaching Program - Learn to Practise Buddhism May 2008 (Glen Park Community Centre Bayswater).
- Vietnamese Buddhist Temples Lunar New Year Visit - February 2008.
- John D Hughes Dhamma Cetiya Construction (multiple folders).
- Ven Liv Peo and Sangha Members Visit our new John D Hughes Dhamma Cetiya - May 2007.
- Ordination of Adam Richards as a Novice Monk.
- His Eminence Kyabje Dorje Chang Ludig Kenchen Rinpoche visit to Melb April 2004.
- Australian Observance of UN Day for Vesak 2008 – 19 May.

MEMBERS NEWS

We have three new Members Simon Kearney, Tanya Poynton, and Daniel White elected at our General Meeting on the 31st of May 2008. Congratulations and welcome to each of you.

LIBRARY NEWS

Min Li has donated 29 Buddha Dhamma books to our library collection with a total value of \$550.

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BUDDHIST HOUR NEWS

Welcome to new Buddhist Hour Members Daniel White and Simon Kearney who joined our team on Sunday 8th June for their first broadcast. Both Daniel and Simon are interested in being regular presenters and we will train them in all the radio team roles including the panel over the next few months.

NEWLY ELECTED OFFICE BEARERS

Welcome to Julian Bamford as our newly elected President of the Buddhist Discussion Centre (Upwey) Ltd.

At our General Meeting on the 26th April 2008 Abbot Anita Carter expressed her gratitude to Evelin Martin and Lainie Smallwood for their kind help and support to her and our centre during the period they were Joint – Presidents.

On behalf of all Members and friends we give our heartfelt thanks to Evelin Martin for her commitment and devotion in her role as Director for many years.

Evelin resigned as Director due to family and work commitments.

We wish Julian all success in his new role as President and look forward to continuing the management and development of our centre by our stable and harmonious management team.

We congratulate Adam Richards for being elected Director of the Buddhist Discussion Centre (Upwey) Ltd at our General Meeting on the 26th of April 2008.

Adam expressed his gratitude for being elected and has committed to caring for our Centre for many years to come. WELL DONE ADAM!

We also congratulate Helen Costas for being elected Director of the Buddhist Discussion Centre (Upwey) Ltd at our General Meeting on the 31st of May 2008.

Helen said it is an honour for her to be elected as a Director. We thank Helen and express our gratitude for her love and commitment to our centre, our

tradition and our Members. Sadhu, Sadhu, Sadhu.

MEMBERS NEWS

Adam Richards recently passed the last examination required to complete his Journeyman's Certificate as a qualified plumber. Congratulations Adam!

In the next month or two Adam will apply for a new plumbing job which will allow him more leisure time to focus on his practice.